

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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R 021147Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8179

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0310

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONGEN MONTREAL

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 1269

PARIS FOR UNESCO; ROME FOR FODAG; VIENNA FOR IAEA/UNIDO;  
MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP, RO

SUBJECT: CERP 0008 -- EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REFS: A) BUCHAREST 1132; B) BUCHAREST A-92 APRIL 19, 1973;

C) STATE 042239; D) STATE A-1149, JANUARY 11, 1974;

E) CERP 0008

1. DETAILED INFORMATION ON U.N. ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN ROMANIA WAS TRANSMITTED IN REFS A AND B, MOST OF WHICH IS STILL CURRENT. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, KEYED TO TOPICS LISTED IN PARA 5, REF C, FOLLOW.

2. ROLE OF UNDP IN UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM. NEW UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE B. R. DEVARAJAN (SRI LANKA) INHERITED EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION FROM ALEXANDER ROTIVAL (U.S.), AFTER INTERVAL OF FOUR OR FIVE MONTHS IN WHICH OFFICE HEADED BY TDY ACTING REP, AND CONTINUES TO ACT AS COORDINATOR OF ALL MAJOR UN PROGRAMS IN ROMANIA. DEVARAJAN'S RELATIONS WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIALS, PROJECT MANAGERS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ARE GOOD (ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY SOMEWHAT

INFERIOR TO THOSE OF ROTIVAL) AND PROJECTS CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD. IBRD SURVEY BEGUN IN ROMANIA LAST SPRING WAS COORDINATED WITH THEN UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ROTIVAL AND INVOLVES MINIMUM OF DUPLICATED EFFORT. END RESULT SHOULD BE GOOD MESH OF UN, IBRD AND ROMANIAN PROJECTS.

3. COORDINATION OF ALL EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. CLOSE CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN UNDP OFFICE AND ROMANIAN CENTRAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES ENSURES THAT EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND THE FOREIGN SPECIALISTS ASSIGNED TO EACH PROJECT ARE WELL TAILORED TO ROMANIAN NEEDS, BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM. IN THE CASE OF SPECIALISTS SENT FOR EXTENDED PERIODS, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE WORKS OUT DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION IN COLLABORATION WITH PROJECT MANAGER AND ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE DEVARAJAN COMMENTED THAT BASIC ATTITUDE OF HOST GOVERNMENT WAS HIGHLY COOPERATIVE. MAIN PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT OCCASIONALLY APPROPRIATLY QUALIFIED FOREIGN PERSONNEL HAVE NOT BEEN AVAILABLE AT THE TIME THEY ARE NEEDED, AND NEED TO CLEAR TECHNICIANS THROUGH UN MECHANISM OCCASIONALLY LEADS TO DELAYS. THERE IS ALSO CHRONIC PROBLEM OF ENCOURAGING COOPERATION BETWEEN SEVERAL ROMANIAN AGENCIES AND UNDP IN MORE COMPLEX PROJECTS SUCH AS MURES RIVER DEVELOPMENT, WHICH IS HEADED BY AN AMERICAN PROJECT MANAGER.

4. COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEWS. COUNTRY PROGRAM FOR ROMANIA, TOTALLING ABOUT \$7.5 MILLION FOR 1973-77 PERIOD, WAS APPROVED IN JUNE 1973 BY UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL. FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE OF THIS YEAR, ALTHOUGH RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTED IT MAY NOT COVER ALL PROJECTS INCLUDED IN PROGRAM.

5. APPRAISAL OF PROPOSED PROJECTS. EMBASSY MAINTAINS REGULAR CONTACT WITH UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE. COMMENTS ON PROJECTS IN COUNTRY PROGRAM WERE SUBMITTED IN REF A.

6. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH PROGRESS OF PROJECT TO DEVELOP ROMANIAN TOURIST INDUSTRY BY TRAINING OF MID-LEVEL MANAGERS AND STAFF. TRAINING NOW BEING DONE AT SINAIA AND POSADA BUT WILL BE MOVED TO BUCHAREST UPON COMPLETION OF NEW PARK HOTEL (NEAR BUCHAREST FAIR GROUNDS), WHICH WITH 760 TRAINEES WILL BECOME ONE OF WORLD'S LARGEST HOTEL TRAINING CENTERS.

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EXISTENCE OF ORGANIZED PROGRAM FOR TOURIST INDUSTRY HAS ATTRACTED MANY EDUCATED YOUTHS INTO FIELD THAT PREVIOUSLY WAS SCORNE BY MANY. NET RESULT WILL BE TO GREATLY STRENGTHEN THIS IMPORTANT HARD-CURRENCY-EARNING SECTOR OF ROMANIAN ECONOMY. IN GENERAL, UNDP REP FEELS THAT ROMANIANS HAVE HIGHLY SATISFACTORY RECORD WITH REGARD TO COUNTERPART CONTRIBUTIONS AND PERSONNEL, ALTHOUGH OCCASIONALLY MINOR PROBLEMS ARISE WITH REGARD TO OBTAINING APPROPRIATELY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL AT THE TIME THEY ARE NEEDED.

7. PROJECT EVALUATION. AT PRESENT, UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE MONITORS PROGRESS OF PROJECTS THROUGH CONSTANT CONSULTATION WITH PROJECT MANAGERS AND ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES. TRIPARTITE EVALUATION IN FORMAL SENSE HAS NOT BEEN NEEDED BUT WILL BE UTILIZED IF PROBLEMS ARISE OR WHEN PROJECTS PASS FROM ONE MAJOR PHASE INTO ANOTHER.

8. FOLLOW-UP WITH UNDP AND EXECUTING AGENCIES. NO PROBLEMS HAVE COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT WOULD WARRANT BEING RAISED BY U.S. MISSION WITH UNDP.  
BARNES

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